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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
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09/369,543 08/06/99 TEMPLE

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JAMES P. ZELLER
MARSHALL O'TOOLE GERSTEIN MURRAY & BORUN
6300 SEARS TOWER
233 SOUTH WACKER DRIVE
CHICAGO IL 60606-6402

EXAMINER

NGUYEN, T

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2861

DATE MAILED: 08/14/01

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/369,543

Applicant(s)

TEMPLE, STEPHEN

Examiner

Thinh H Nguyen

Art Unit

2861

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-40 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-40 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claims ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are objected to by the Examiner.
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on ____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

Attachment(s)

- 15) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 16) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 17) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) ____.
- 18) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). ____.
- 19) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 20) ☐ Other: _____.

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DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

1. Claims 1-40 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kondo. (JP 4-10948) in view of Kneezel. (U.S.5,598,191)

Kondo (see figs. 2, 8) discloses the instant claimed color printhead and printing method wherein nozzles being arranged in blocks and repeat patterns so as to print different swath of colors each being wider than a swath printed by a single nozzle side by side or overlap swaths of different colors at any point by controlling the relative shuttle movement of the print head and the ink-receiving medium (see also constitution).

As for said printhead being greater than the receiving medium, Kondo suggests the printhead width can be extended to shorten the time for printing since there will be less distance for the carrier to shuttle along the shaft. It would have been an obvious expedience to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to provide a wider printhead as suggested by Kondo thereby to enable a shorter printing time.

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Kneezel (see the entire document for details) teaches the similar color nozzles arrangement including the step reciprocating the printhead to print different color print swath and overlap swaths in further relative scanning of the printhead. In view of the Kneezel teachings, It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to provide the controlling steps as taught by Kneezel in Kondo's printhead for printing overlapped print swaths.

Pertinent Prior art

2. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

U.S Patent 5,731,531 to Rezanka et al. teach printhead structures dispose transverse or along the reciprocating direction of the printhead.

Response to Amendment

Applicant's response filed May 21, 2001 have been fully considered. However, arguments with respect to claims 1-40 are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to Examiner Thinh Nguyen at telephone number (703) 308-7487.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0956.



Thinh Nguyen

August 9, 2001

Thinh Nguyen
Primary Examiner
Technology Center 2800